



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

been raised whether it is not a belated member of the Cycadofilicales, and therefore any further information concerning it is desirable. BOMMER³³ has obtained material that supplies additional information, which he publishes in a preliminary announcement. The vascular structure of the plant suggests to him possible relationship with the Matoniaceae, but the sporangia, now found attached, are of special interest. They occur in synangia which resemble inverted cones, and possess an incomplete annulus, as in *Matonia*. Each synangium includes 10-15 sporangia, and the synangia themselves are grouped so as to form spherical bodies 3-4 mm. in diameter. These synangial groups are borne thickly on apparently naked branches of the frond. Such fructifications have been found heretofore detached. BOMMER is evidently undecided whether the most obvious testimony at present should decide for *Matonia* affinities; or whether certain vague suggestions should decide for a *Marattia* connection; or whether, after all, these synangia may not be the microsporangia of Cycadofilicales. This lack of decision is commendable.—J. M. C.

A classification of plants.—Professor BESSEY has long been interested in a general classification of plants which is quite a departure, in many respects, from current schemes. In 1909 he published in outline his ripened conclusions, together with the principles involved, and now he has furnished a key³⁴ by which the groupings are defined, so far as a key can define. It is impossible to give an account of the views expressed without reprinting the paper, for it is in itself the shortest possible statement. It is sufficient to say that the 4 conventional main groups are dissipated into 14 "phyla," whose technical and common names may serve to indicate them: Myxophyceae (slime algae), Protophyceae (simple algae), Zygomyceteae (conjugate algae), Siphonophyceae (tube algae), Phaeophyceae (brown algae), Carpophyceae (higher algae), Carpomyceteae (higher fungi), Bryophyta (mosses), Pteridophyta (ferns), Calamophyta (calamites), Lepidophyta (lycopods), Cycadophyta (cycads), Strobilophyta (conifers), Anthophyta (flowering plants). These phyla are broken up into 32 classes and 94 orders, not including the dicotyledons, which constitute class 33, with 5 "super-orders," the list of orders not being given.—J. M. C.

Seeds of the Conostoma group.—OLIVER and SALISBURY³⁵ have assembled the material of *Conostoma* for investigation, and have compared it with *Lagenostoma*, *Physostoma*, and *Gnetopsis*. A full description is given of *C. oblongum* and *C. anglo-germanicum*, and this is followed by a comparison with related

³³ BOMMER, CH., Contribution à l'étude du genre *Weichselia*. Note préliminaire. Bull. Soc. Roy. Bot. Belgique 47:296-304. figs. 18. 1911.

³⁴ BESSEY, CHARLES E., The phyla, classes, and orders of plants. Trans. Amer. Micr. Soc. 29:85-96. 1910.

³⁵ OLIVER, F. W., and SALISBURY, E. J., On the structure and affinities of the paleozoic seeds of the *Conostoma* group. Annals of Botany 25:1-50. pls. 1-3. figs. 13. 1911.